

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action having a mailing date of February 6, 2006. Claims 1-40 are pending in the present Application. Applicant has amended claims 1-2, 4, 5, 8-10, 14, 16, and 18-34. Applicant has also canceled claims 15 and 17. Consequently, claims 1-14, 16, and 18-40 remain pending in the present Application.

This application is under Final Rejection. Applicant has presented arguments hereinbelow that Applicant believes should render the claims allowable. In the event, however, that the Examiner is not persuaded by Applicant's arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the Amendment to clarify issues upon appeal.

In the above-identified Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 36-39 were allowed and that claims 3, 8, 9, 16, 19-22, 24, 27, and 29-34 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant welcomes the allowance of claims 36-39 and the indication that claims 3, 8, 9, 16, 19-22, 24, 27, and 29-34 contain allowable subject matter. In addition, although not specifically treated by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 40 is allowable as currently presented.

Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include, in the alternative, the limitations of claims 3, 8, and 9 and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent claim 14 to include, in the alternative, the limitations of claims 16, 21, and 22 and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 19 to be in independent form and to include, in the alternative, the limitations of claims 19, 20, and 24 and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent claim 25 to include, in the alternative, the limitations of claims 27, 31, 32, and 33 and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claim 29 to be in independent form and to include, in the alternative, the limitations of claims 29, 30, and 34 and any intervening claims. Furthermore, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 14 to recite first and second pluralities of conductive sections in the alternative. Applicant has included the "first" and "second" to ensure that claims 1 and 14 have proper antecedent basis. Thus, for example, the "first" plurality of conductive sections in claim 1 corresponds to allowable claim 8, while the second plurality of conductive sections corresponds to allowable claim 9. Similarly, Applicant has amended claim 25 to include "first", "second", and "third" pluralities of conductive sections for similar reasons. However, Applicant notes that there is no requirement in the claims or indicated in the specification, that the first, second, and third pluralities of conductive sections must be different. Applicant has also amended claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8-10, 16, 18, 20-24, 26-28, and 31-34 to harmonize the claims with the amendments to claims 1, 14, 19, 25, and 29 and to ensure that the claims depend upon pending claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added and that no new search is required.

As discussed above, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claims 3, 8, and 9 in the alternative. Because the Examiner had previously indicated that claims 3, 8, and 9 contain allowable subject matter, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable as currently presented.

Applicant has amended claim 14 to include the limitations of claims 16, 21, and 22 in the alternative. Because the Examiner had previously indicated that claims 16, 21, and 22 contain allowable subject matter, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 14 is allowable as currently presented.

Applicant has amended claim 19 to include the limitations of claims 19, 20, and 24 in the alternative. Because the Examiner had previously indicated that claims 19, 20, and 24 contain allowable subject matter, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 19 is allowable as currently presented.

Applicant has amended claim 25 to include the limitations of claims 27, 31, 32, and 33 in the alternative. Because the Examiner had previously indicated that claims 27, 31, 32, and 33 contain allowable subject matter, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 25 is allowable as currently presented.

Applicant has amended claim 29 to include the limitations of claims 29, 30, and 34 in the alternative. Because the Examiner had previously indicated that claims 29, 30, and 34 contain allowable subject matter, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 29 is allowable as currently presented.

Claims 2-13 depend upon allowable independent claim 1. Claims 16, 18, and 21-23 depend upon allowable independent claim 14. Claims 26-28, 31-33, 35, and 36 depend upon allowable independent claim 25. Claims 30 and 34 depend upon allowable independent claim 29. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-13, 16, 18, 20-24, 26-28, and 30-36 are allowable as currently presented.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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